

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation)	ORDER OF
)	
or Suspension of the Educator's)	SUMMARY SUSPENSION
)	
Certificate of Scott Brian Easler,)	
)	
Certificate #185477)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on April 13, 2004. The State Department of Education (Department) will send a notice of the possible revocation of his South Carolina teaching certificate #185477 (certificate) to Mr. Scott Brian Easler, by certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. In the interim in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. §1-23-370(c) (1986), the Department requested that the State Board summarily suspend Mr. Easler's certificate until a due process hearing is held, or this matter is otherwise resolved. The Department has reason to believe, due to the nature of the misconduct that led to the pending criminal charges against him, that Mr. Easler may pose a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of students that may be under his instruction. This summary suspension will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina and the NASDTEC Clearinghouse as a summary suspension pending due process proceedings. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, the State Board voted to summarily suspend Mr. Easler's certificate until a due process hearing is held, or this matter is otherwise resolved.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Easler holds a valid South Carolina certificate and has just over six years of teaching experience. He was under contract with Spartanburg County School District Three (District) for the 2003-2004 school year as a Math and Science teacher at the Pacolet Middle School. On March 31, 2004, Mr. Easler was arrested and charged with two counts of Disseminating Obscene Materials. Mr. Easler admitted to law enforcement that he talked inappropriately and exposed his genitals in an e-mail to two female students on their home computers.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person," S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (1990). Just cause includes: "Unprofessional conduct... and Crime against the law of this State or the United States..." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (1990); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (1992). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (1986), "If the agency finds that public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action." The State Board finds that there is reason to believe that Mr. Easler may pose a danger or threat to the welfare of students that may be under his instruction. Accordingly, the State Board hereby summarily suspends Mr. Easler's certificate # 185477 until a due process hearing is held, or this matter is otherwise resolved.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Mary E. Jones
Dr. Mary E. Jones
Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
April 13, 2004